

## **Half the Sky: turning oppression into opportunity for women worldwide**

by Nicholas D. Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn

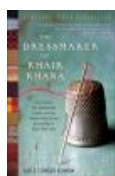
See more questions at: <http://www.care.org/downloads/care-half-the-sky-discussion-guide.pdf>

- The authors discuss how their support for the “legalize and regulate” approach to prostitution evolved and changed. Were you convinced by their argument?
- The authors state that laws are not the key to change, given corruption and/or indifference to enforcement. In addition, some women participate in the oppression of other women: managing the brothels, pressuring the girls to get their genitals cut, feeding their sons before their daughters, etc. Instead, the authors say change has to “be felt in the culture.” When is it our place to call another culture wrong?
- The authors highlight the brave few, the “social entrepreneurs,” who are creating change in their communities. Yet, we cannot compel more women to take on these highly risky roles. How then can we help create the sea change that is needed?

### **About the Authors**

Kristof and WuDunn won the 1990 Pulitzer Prize for International Reporting for their coverage of the pro-democracy student movement and Tiananmen Square. Kristof also won the 2006 Pulitzer Prize for Commentary for his reporting on Darfur.

### **Additional Books to Try**



#### **The dressmaker of Khair Khana : five sisters, one remarkable family, and the woman who risked everything to keep them safe / Gayle Tzemach Lemmon**

This is the incredible true account of Kamila Sidiqi who, when her father and brother were forced to flee Kabul, became the sole breadwinner for her five siblings. Armed only with grit and determination, she picked up a needle and thread and created a thriving business of her own and held her family together.

#### **The good women of China: hidden voices / Xinran**

For eight groundbreaking years, Xinran hosted a radio program in China during which she invited women to call in and talk about themselves. Broadcast every evening, *Words on the Night Breeze* became famous throughout the country for its unflinching portrayal of what it meant to be a woman in modern China.

#### **I am an emotional creature: the secret life of girls around the world / Eve Ensler**

Through rants, poetry, questions, and facts, we come to understand the universality of girls everywhere: their resiliency, their wildness, their pain, their fears, their secrets, and their triumphs. / *Am an Emotional Creature* is a call, a reckoning, an education, an act of empowerment for girls, and an illumination for parents and for us all.



#### **In the name of honor: a memoir / Mukhtar Mai with Marie-Thérèse Cuny; translated by Linda Coverdale; foreword by Nicholas D. Kristof**

(One of the women profiled in the book.) In June 2002, journalists throughout the world began to hear of the gang rape of a Pakistani woman from the impoverished village of Meerwala. This time the survivor had chosen to fight back, and in doing so, single-handedly changed the feminist movement in Pakistan.

#### **Infidel / Ayaan Hirsi Ali**

Ultimately a celebration of triumph over adversity, Hirsi Ali's story tells how a bright little girl evolved out of dutiful obedience to become an outspoken, pioneering freedom fighter.

